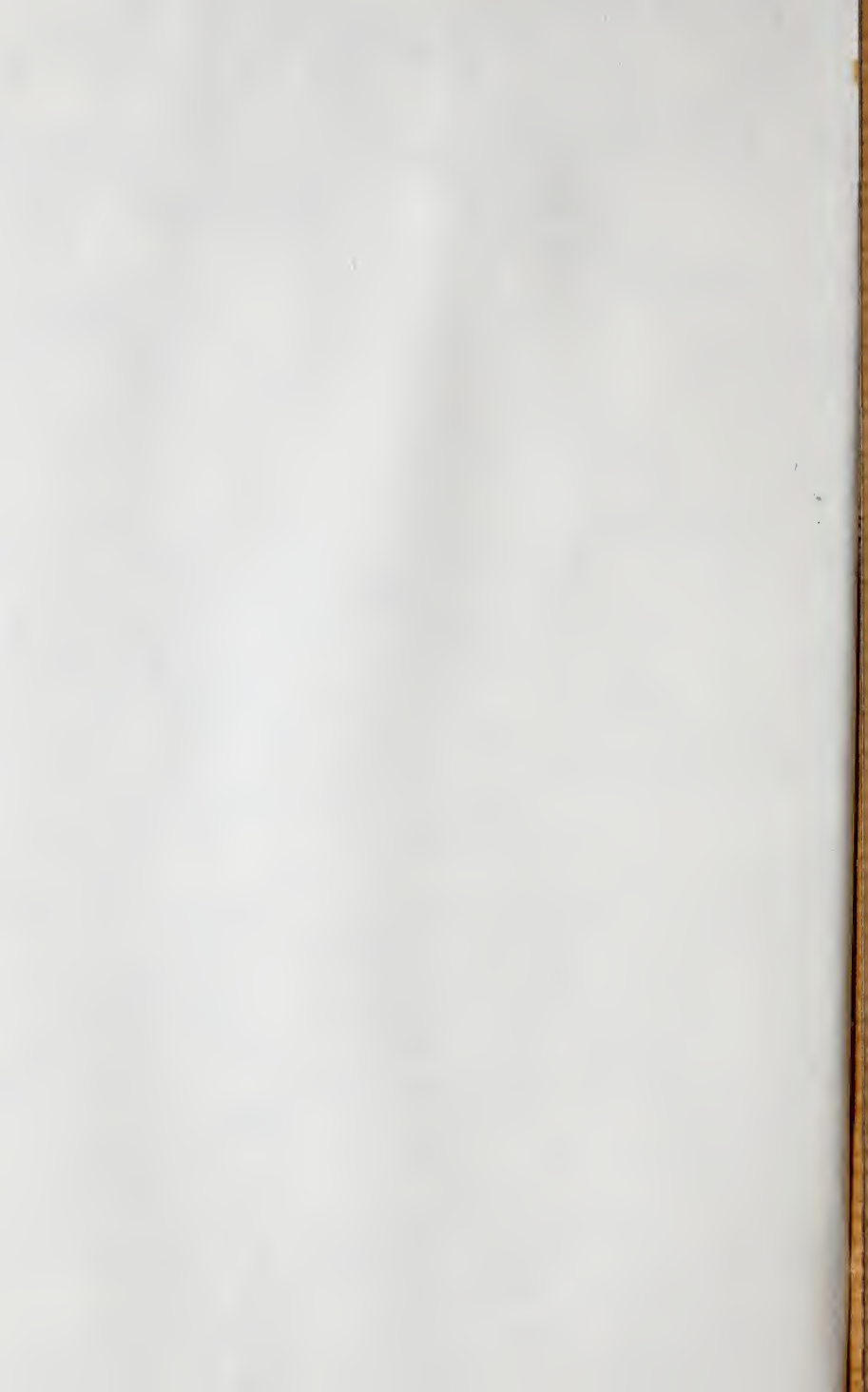


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TOWN OF WESTFORD.

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE TOWN OFFICERS,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

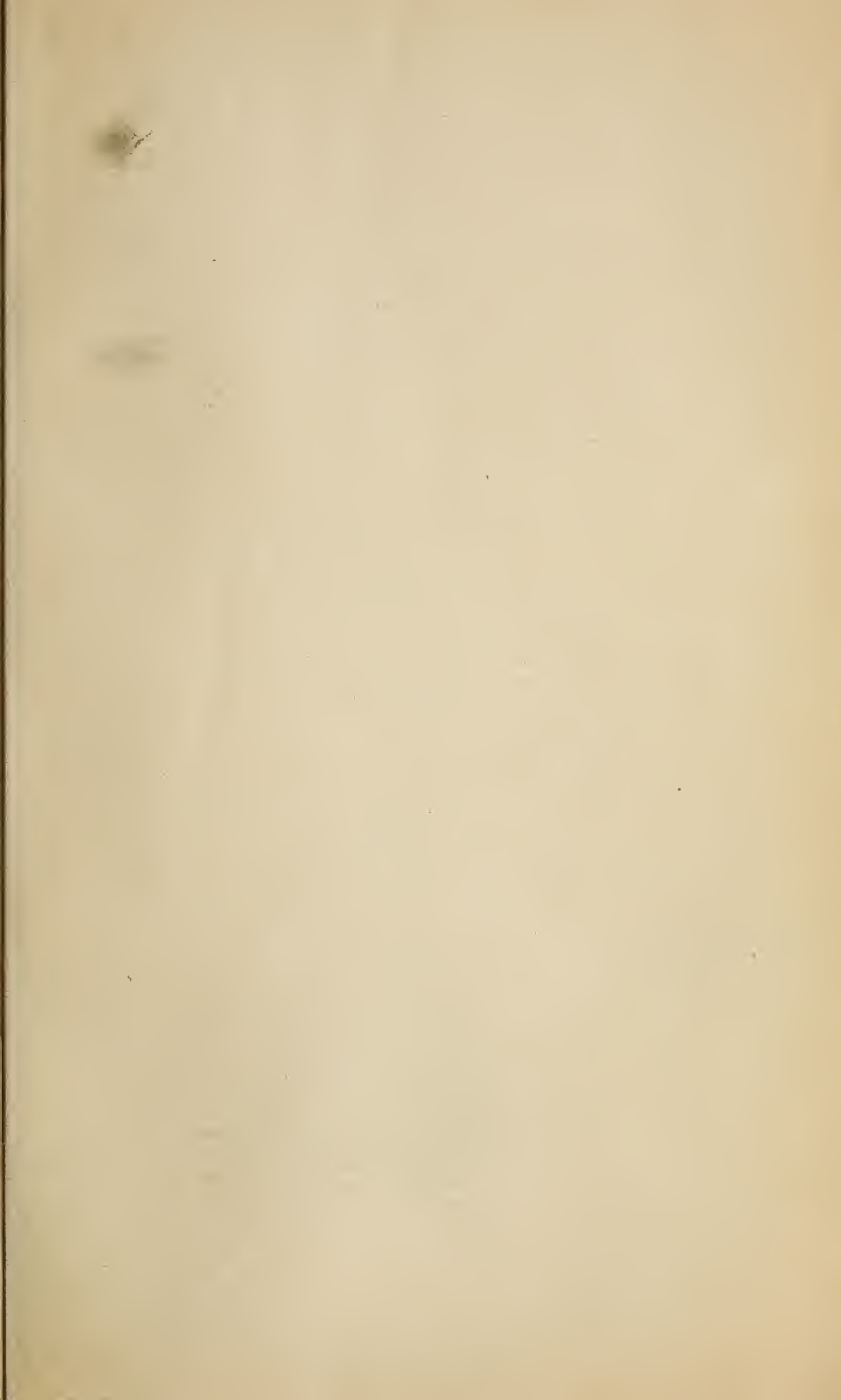
FEBRUARY 14, 1896.

ESSEX JUNCTION, VERMONT;

EAGLE PRINT;

1896.





TOWN OFFICERS.≡≡≡

MODERATOR,
S. H. MACOMBER.

CLERK AND TREASURER,
L. M. BATES.

SELECTMEN,
A. D. PARTRIDGE, S. C. BATES, F. B. MACOMBER.

OVERSEER OF POOR,
S. H. MACOMBER.

CONSTABLE,
E. B. WHIPPLE.

LISTERS,
S. H. MACOMBER, A. C. ROBINSON, C. H. COBB.

AUDITORS,
I. F. HOBART, L. R. TABOR, L. C. NICHOLS.

TOWN AGENT AND TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC MONEY,
L. C. NICHOLS.

SCHOOL DIRECTORS,
G. M. HUNTLEY, A. C. ROBINSON, E. B. WHIPPLE.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS,
G. M. HUNTLEY.

ROAD COMMISSIONER,
F. B. SMITH.

LIBRARY TRUSTEES,
L. C. NICHOLS, F. B. MACOMBER, I. F. HOBART,
E. H. RUGGLES, J. E. ALLEN.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

To the Legal Voters in Town meeting assembled :—

The Selectmen would respectfully present the following reports of the several town officers for the year ending Feb. 14th, 1896 :—

The town is to be congratulated on its financial prosperity, for notwithstanding the fact that extensive repairs have been made upon the town house, and free text books have been furnished by the town, there is still enough money to defray all expenses, and leave a small balance in the treasury.

A tax of ninety or one hundred cents on a dollar of the grand list will probably raise a sum sufficient to defray all expenses of the coming year.

The claim in district No. 1 was settled in a satisfactory manner early in the year. The suit which was pending against the town is still unsettled.

The two principal events which mark the progress of the town this year, are the renovation of the town house, and the establishment of a free public Library. In the first instance, the old town house, which was becoming a disgrace to the town, has been enlarged and thoroughly repaired, and we now have a handsome and commodious hall, well warmed, seated, and lighted, and to judge by the frequency with which it is occupied, well appreciated by the public.

So far, it has been warmed and lighted at the expense of the town, and a small rent charged to parties using it.

A room in the basement is devoted to the library, which is

open every Saturday afternoon and evening, and is well patronized.

For further information see report of Trustees.

The following is a list of orders drawn by the Selectmen for the year beginning March 5th 1895, and ending February 14th 1896.

T. B. Tyler, for right of way,	\$ 5 00
C. W. Carrington, snowing bridges,	4 00
C. K. Drury, printing town reports,	10 11
B. J. Rogers, work on bridge in 1894,	1 25
L. R. Tabor, watering trough,	2 00
Frank Longe, gravel for roads,	11 25
H. W. Carrington, plank for bridge,	4 20
S. E. Castle, for lumber furnished O. S. Nichols,	30 00
Charles Brooks, care of cemetery,	5 00
Fred McClellan, error in list for 1894,	2 00
F. E. Watson, error in list,	5 00
James McClure, care of cemetery and watering trough,	4 00
James McClure, building cemetery fence and ma- terial furnished,	11 02
E. B. Whipple, gravel for roads,	12 00
Arthur Osgood, care of cemetery,	1 00
O. S. Nichols, repairs on Town House,	670 00
I. F. Hobart, wire for cemetery fence,	11 13
Dorcas Weaver's estate, error in list,	6 00
A. E. Corliss, care of cemetery,	4 00
S. Place, stoves, pipe and eave troughs for Town House,	58 35
F. B. Smith, building guard on Castle Hill, and material furnished,	22 90
F. B. Smith, work about Town House with team,	3 85
S. E. Castle, wood for town house,	4 37

For Free Public Library fund,	\$ 25 00
I. E. Huntley, lamps and fixturess for town hall,	29 01
George Northway, care of cemetery,	2 00
L. C. Nichols, cash paid out as Town Agent, ...	7 00
L. C. Nichols, deficiency in U. S. deposit money	12 54
S. H. Macomber, services as lister and making out grnad list,	18 90
A. C. Robinson, services as lister,	3 75
C. H. Cobb, services as lister,	4 50
S. H. Macomber, support of poor,	232 25
S. P. Bates, sawing wood for town,	1 00
E. B. Whipple, abatement of taxes,	27 38
I. E. Huntley, for merchandise,	7 23
I. F. Hobart, services as auditor,	3 00
L. R. Tabor, " " "	3 00
L. C. Nichols, " " "	3 00
L. M. Bates, services as Town Clerk,,	19 50
" " " " " " " Treasurer,	10 00
" " " postal cards and cash paid out	1 50
A. D. Partridge, services as Selectman and mon- ey paid out,	32 95
S. C. Bates, " " "	21 60
F. B. Macomber, " " "	10 75

\$1364 29

A. D. PARTRIDGE, } *Selectmen*
 S. C. BATES, } *of*
 F. B. MACOMBER, } *Westford.*

Westford, Vt., February 14, 1896.

ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT.

F. B. Smith, for services as Road Commissioner, with man and team,	\$255 90
Cash paid out for work and incidentals,	75 95
F. E. Allen, for work on road,	147 70
Clark Page, " " "	148 45
Frank Longe, " " "	74 10
Alfred Bellus, " " "	54 30
Edward Macia, " " "	48 37
Charlie Perry, " " "	41 00
Charles Macia, " " "	35 55
Don Smith, " " "	20 40
Alson Reynolds, " " "	2 50
Lewis Hall, " " "	26 40
Cassius Cobb, " " "	1 50
Horton Blake, " " "	7 50
F. B. Macomber, " " "	8 00
A. M. Covey, " " "	41 74
J. Milanson, " " "	2 50
John Scott, " " "	10 00
Reeve Tabor, " " "	11 00
Rollin Austin, " " "	11 00
Frank Adams, " " "	11 15
Willard Sheldon, " " "	8 00
Thaddeus Orton, " " "	13 50
Alva Holmes, " " "	1 00
J. B. Stone, " " "	29 65
Loren Perry, " " "	7 35
Elwood Irish, " " "	9 00
John Rice, " " "	3 12
Wesley Castle, " " "	3 50

Ira Whitney,	"	"	"	.....	10 00
Elick Deveneau,	"	"	"	.....	10 00
Fred Holmes,	"	"	"	.....	8 00
Burt Ballard,	"	"	"	.....	1 00
Peter King,	"	"	"	.....	2 50
Clinton Stearns,	"	"	"	.....	3 00
F. A. Goodrich,	"	"	"	.....	4 00
Charles Green,	"	"	"	.....	4 00
Amos Partridge,	"	"	"	.....	1 00
C. A. Munson and son, for work in shop,					3 85

\$1157 48

F. B. SMITH, *Road Commissioner.*

OVERSEER OF POOR'S REPORT.

The expense for the year ending March 1, 1896, is as follows:—

Mrs. Stickney,	\$ 65 25
Miss Robinson,	40 00
Martha Gibbs,	52 00
Alfred Maxfield,	35 00

\$192 25

Dr. C. S. Jenne, for services,	25 00
S. H. Macomber, as Overseer,	15 00

\$232 25

S. H. MACOMBER, *Overseer of Poor.*

SCHOOL DIRECTORS' REPORT.

Whole amount of orders drawn, \$2704 72

This amount has been expended as follows ;—

DISTRICT NO. 1.

Teachers' wages,	\$174 00
Incidentals,	23 50

DISTRICT NO. 2.

Teacher's wages,	\$174 00
Incidentals,	17 00

DISTRICT NO. 3.

Teachers' wages,	\$348 00
Incidentals,	44 20

DISTRICT No. 4.

Teachers' wages,	\$174 00
Incidentals,	18 00

DISTRICT No. 5.

Teachers' wages,	\$44 00
Incidentals,	1 50
Carrying the Scholars to No. 3.	75 00

DISTRICT No. 6.

Teachers' wages,	\$174 00
Incidentals,	28 80

DISTRICT No. 8.

Teachers' wages,	\$148 00
Incidentals,	3 00

DISTRICT No. 9

Teachers' wages,.....	\$174 00
Incidentals,	34 25

DISTRICT No. 10.

Teachers' wages,.....	\$90 00
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DISTRICT No. 11.

Teachers' wages,.....	\$174 00
Incidentals,	21 35

Books for the town,.....	\$545 48
Town of Milton,.....	35 00
Repairs and cleaning school houses,...	12 41
Cupboards for books in school houses,.	15 00
Paint and oil,.....	69 60
Insurance,.....	4 37
School Census,.....	11 00
Registration,	9 75
Superintendent's services,.....	22 50
G. M. Huntley, services as School Director,	15 25
A. C. Robinson, " " " "	12 00
E. B. Whipple, " " " "	9 75

Total,.....\$2704 72, \$2704 72

G. M. HUNTLEY,	} <i>School Directors.</i>
A. C. ROBINSON,	
E. B. WHIPPLE,	

LIBRARY TRUSTEES' REPORT.

Received from State, books,.....	\$ 100 00
" " District No. 3,.....	15 00
Proceeds of Oyster Supper,	54 52
From donations,	3 50
Town order,	25 00
Fines,.....	35

\$198 37

Books from the State,.....	\$ 100 00
" " from School district No. 3,	15 00
Bill of books,.....	24 50
" " "	4 47
" " "	31 00
Incidentals,.....	1 72
Cash on hand,.....	21 68

\$198 37

Number of volumes in Library.....265
 " taken out in two months,.....300

I. C. NICHOLS, F. B. MACOMBER, I. F. HOBART, E. H. RUGGLES, J. E. ALLEN,	}	<i>Trustees of the Library.</i>
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AUDITORS' REPORT.

The Auditors report that they have examined the accounts of L. M. Bates, as Town Treasurer, for the year ending February 14, 1896, and find as follows:—

HIGHWAY FUND.

	Dr.	
Balance in Treasury Feb. 14, 1895,.....	\$ 43 81	
Check from State Treasurer,	352 27	
20 per cent of Grand List,.....	838 79	
	<hr/>	
	\$1234 87	
	Cr.	
Paid Road Commissioner's orders,	\$ 1157 48	
Balance in Treasury February 14, 1896,.....	77 39	
	<hr/>	
	\$1234 87	

GENERAL FUND.

Cash on hand February 14, 1895,.....	\$ 266 39
Town Tax 1895, \$1.05 per cent,	4403 66
State Treasurer's check for school,	334 97
Licensing Dogs,	116 00
Cash received from School District No. 1,.....	100 13
“ “ “ “ “ “ 8,.....	78 38
“ “ “ “ “ “ 2,.....	38 87
“ “ “ “ “ “ 10,.....	24 27
“ “ “ “ “ “ 9,.....	33 31
Trustee Public Money,.....	124 91
Rent on school lands,.....	91 48
Received from town of Essex,.....	32 45
Huntington Fund,	39 36

Rec. of F. B. Smith, for hay on common,.....	\$ 7 75
“ “ Dr. C. S. Jenne for town house window,	1 00
Rent of Town House,.....	6 00
Cash for brick, from Alvin Cilley,	7 20

\$5706 13

DISBURSEMENTS.

Cash paid School District No. 1,	\$ 270 13
Paid State school tax,	212 72
“ “ highway tax,	212 72
“ “ tax,.....	330 18
Discount on town tax,	172 54
Percentage on tax received,.....	43 14
Paid interest on loan,	21 33
“ John Allen, insurance,	38 62
“ County tax,.....	20 64
Fees for licensing dogs,	10 10
Paid H. J. Shanley, blank book,	8 77
“ N. N. Wheelock, “ “	2 25
“ Dr. Jenne, health report,	1 00
“ School Commissioner's orders,.....	2704 72
“ Selectmens' orders.	1364 29
Balance in Treasury February 14, 1896,.....	292 98

\$5706 13

RECAPITULATION.

Balance in treasury, highway fund,	77 39
“ “ “ general fund,.....	292 98
Total : balance in Treasury,	\$370 37

I. F. HOBART, }
 L. R. TABOR, } *Auditors.*
 L. C. NICHOLS, }

Dated at Westford, Vt., February 14, 1896.

The Town Officers have charged for their services as follows :—

A. D. Partridge, services as Selectman,	\$ 24 10
S. C. Bates, " " "	20 75
F. B. Macomber " " "	9 25
S. H. Macomber, " " Lister,	18 90
A. C. Robinson, " " "	3 75
C. H. Cobb, " " "	4 50
G. M. Huntley, " " School Director,	15 25
E. B. Whipple, " " " "	9 75
A. C. Robinson, " " " "	12 00
G. M. Huntley, " " " Superintendent, .	22 50
L. M. Bates, " " Town Clerk,	19 50
" " " " " Treasurer,	10 00
S. H. Macomber, " " Overseer of poor,	15 00
I. F. Hobart, " " Auditor,	3 00
L. R. Tabor, " " "	3 00
L. C. Nichols " " "	3 00

\$194 25

SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

The Common Schools of the year just passed compare favorably with preceding ones. It is said that "Schools are what teacher's make them."

There may be some truth in the saying, yet no teacher can have a brilliant school without bright pupils; and the co-operation of parents tends greatly to increase the benefit of the teachers' efforts, while their neglect or indifference produces a contrary effect. Many parents allow, and perhaps encourage their children to be absent from school to such a degree that their days of absense outnumber the days of attendance. The result is plain, the scholar drops from its class into a lower grade, to the discouragement of both teacher and scholar. This negligence of parents to keep their children in school deserves censure. It begets idleness which leads to mischief. Names of pupils which appear on the register with or without marks, show generally what pupils are making the most improvement in their studies.

A noted feature of the school register is the absence of the names of parents on the page of "Visitors' Record."

The new books have been a great advantage to the schools in general, and the scholars have taken unusually good care of them.

The greatest progress has been made in the schools where the same teachers have remained through the year.

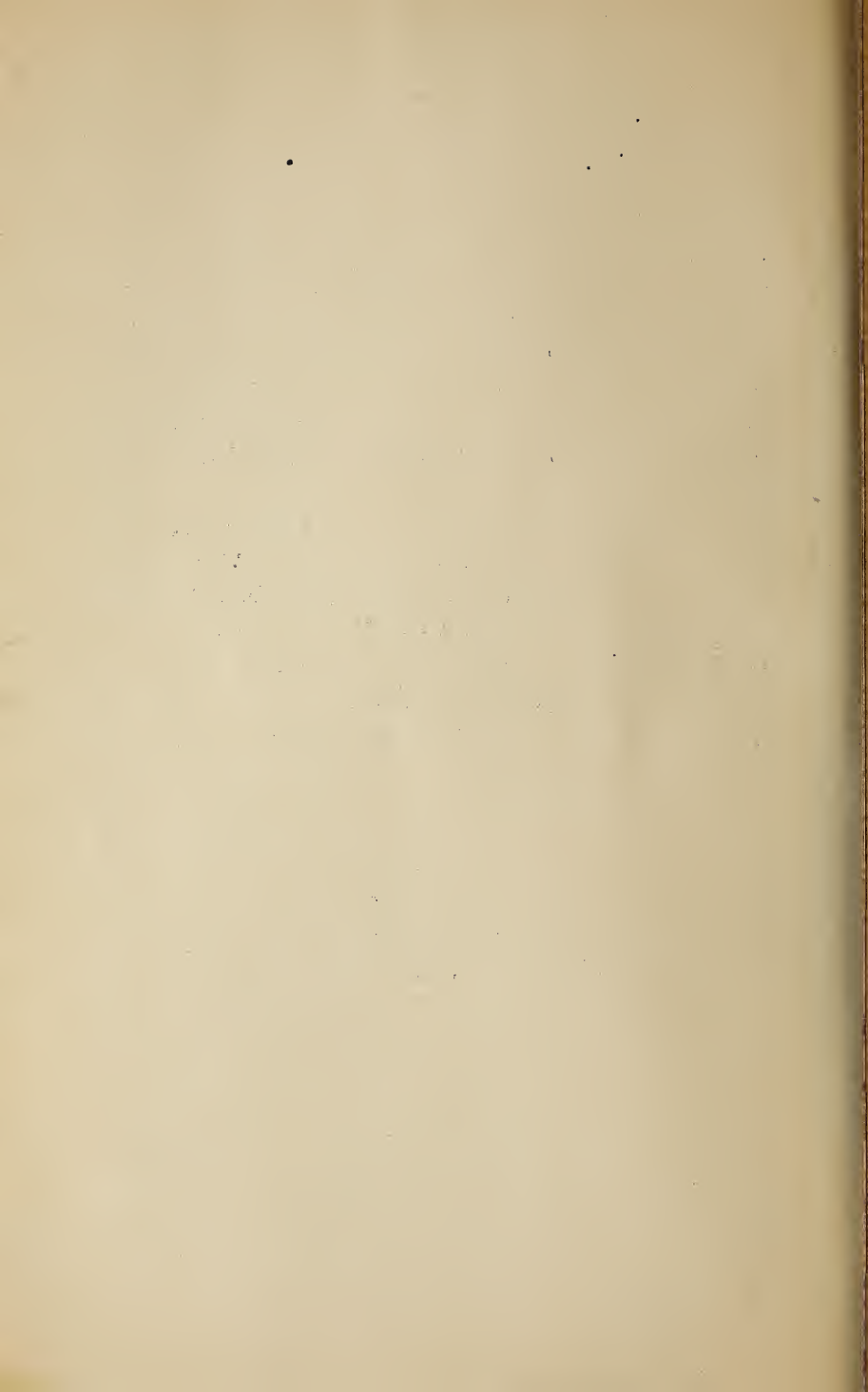
It would be well to bear in mind that, aside from the expense of new books, and the painting of three school-houses, namely, No's. 9, 6, and 1, the expenses are less than one year ago. I doubt if Westford wants to put the teachers' wages so low that they cannot have the best, as in years past.

TEACHERS IN WESTFORD FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEB. 14, 1896.

NO.	SPRING TERM.	FALL TERM.	WINTER TERM.
1	Lena Whitten,	Herbert Huntley,	Albert Byington,
2	Fanny Brigham,	Chas. Macomber,	Chas. Macomber,
3	Julia Ferry,	Phila Hall,	Phila Hall,
3	Gustie Chase,	Gustie Chase,	Gustie Chase,
4	Anna Partridge,	Anna Partridge,	Emily Hall,
5	Ann Howard,		
6	Emeline Beach,	Emily Hall,	Emeline Beach,
8	Emma Morse,	Edna Wagner,	Edna Wagner,
9	Bertha Robinson,	Bertha Robinson,	Bertha Robinson,
10	Emma Morse,	Martha Castle,	Martha Castle,
11	Harriet Rice,	Harriet Rice,	Harriet Rice.

Respectfully submitted,

G. M. HUNTLEY, *Sup't of Schools.*





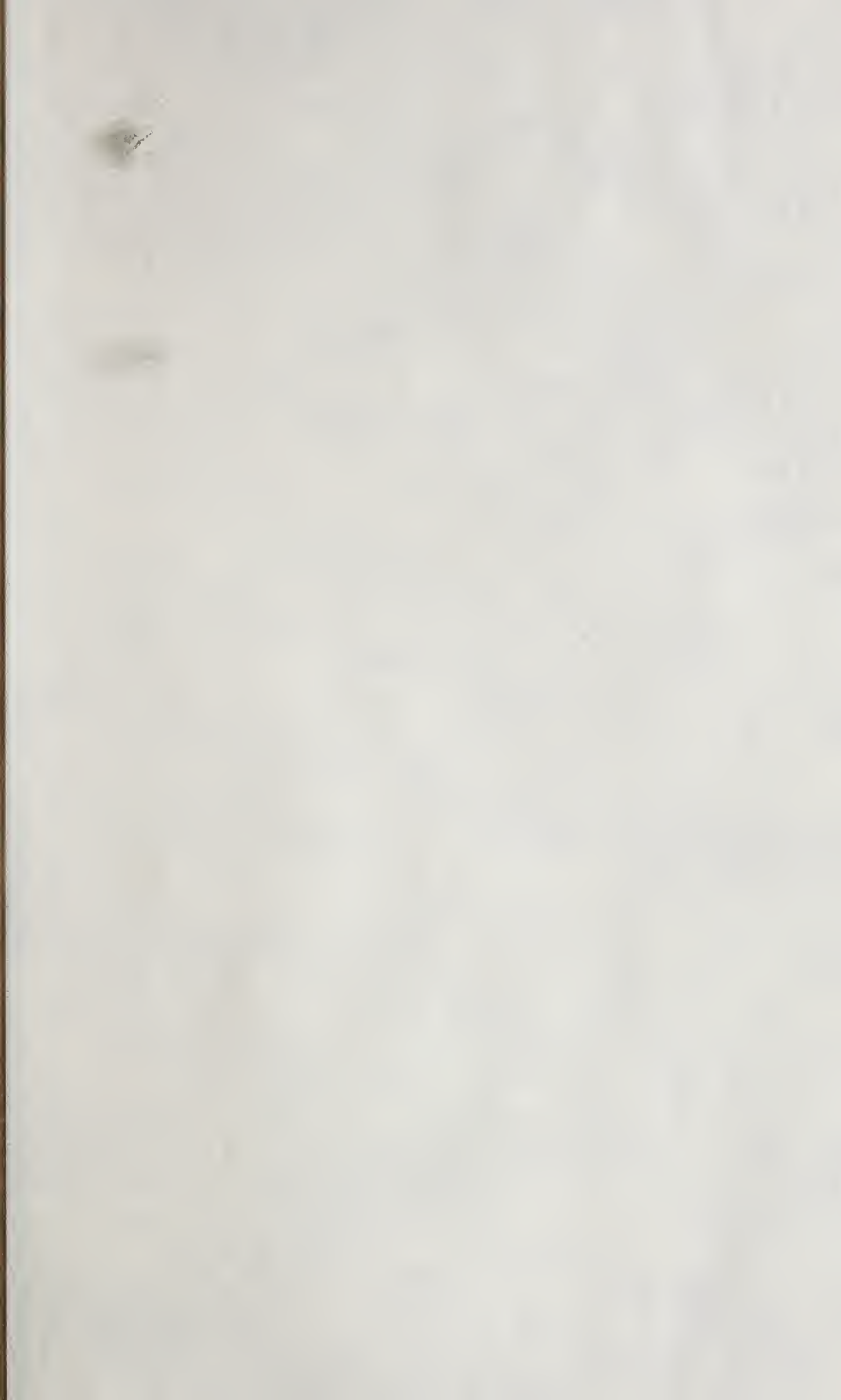
NOTICE.

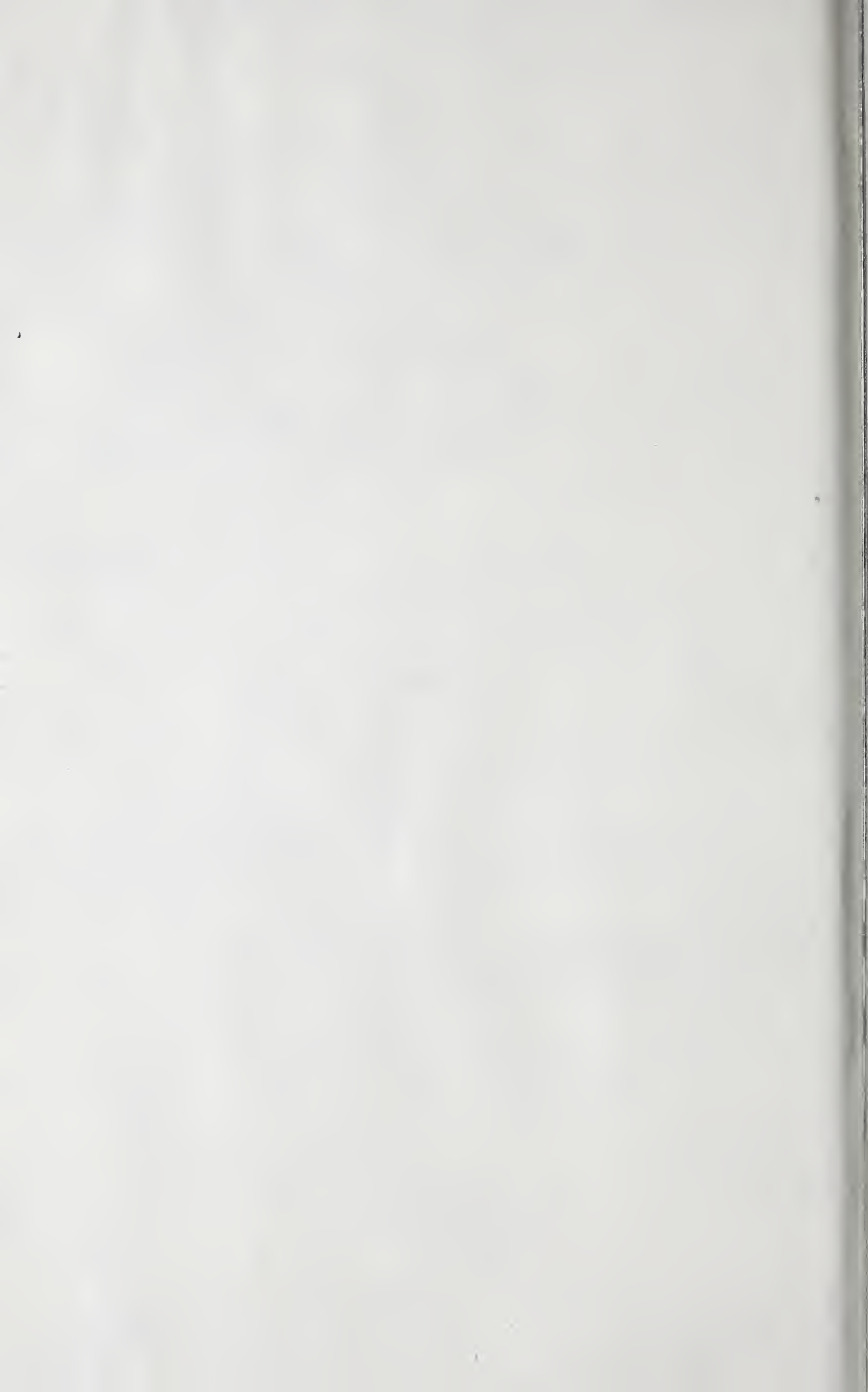
The Legal Voters of the town of Westford are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Town Hall, in said town of Westford, on Tuesday, March 3rd, A. D. 1896, at Ten o'clock, A. M., to transact the following business, to wit:—

1. To choose a Moderator.
2. To elect a Town Clerk for the year ensuing.
3. To act on the several reports of the Town Officers.
4. To elect all officers required by law for the year ensuing.
5. To see what per cent. on the Grand List the town will vote to raise to defray the expenses for the year ensuing.
6. To see if the town will vote to give its Constable jurisdiction throughout the State.
7. To see if the town will vote to accept the provisions of Sections 382–388 of the Revised Laws of Vermont, relating to the collection of taxes.
8. To see if the town will vote to observe Memorial Day.
9. To do any other business thought proper to come before said meeting.

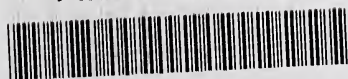
A. D. PARTRIDGE, } *Selectmen*
S. C. BATES, } *of*
F. H. MACOMBER, } *Westford.*

Westford, Vt. Feb. 19, 1896.





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